

AMENDMENTS

In the Specification:

On page 1, before the heading "Background of the Invention," please insert the following:

CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATION(S)

This application is a continuation of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/686,004, entitled Minimally Invasive Valve Repair Procedure and Apparatus and filed on October 10, 2000, which application is incorporated herein by reference in its entirety and to which we claim priority under 35 U.S.C. §120.

In the Drawings:

The attached six replacement sheets of drawings replace all of the originally filed drawings.

Replacement sheets 1 and 2 replace original sheet 1 and separate FIGS. 1 and 2 for clarity.

Replacement sheet 3 replaces original sheet 2. Replacement sheets 4 and 5 replace original sheet 3 and separate FIGS. 5 and 6 for clarity. Replacement sheet 6 replaces original sheet 4.

In the replacement sheets, extraneous lines have been removed from FIGS. 1, 5 and 7; FIG. 6 has been revised to more clearly show the tapered portion of the assembly shown in FIG. 5; and FIG. 7 has been revised to more clearly show the coils and to better conform with the specification, which states that "clip assembly 20" is characterized as having ... two self closing clips 22' as shown in and explained with reference to FIG. 5" (page 8, lines 18-20).

Attachment: Four Replacement Sheets